5

## INFORMATION RETRIEVAL WITH NON-NEGATIVE MATRIX FACTORIZATION

INS. A)

## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Disclosed is a method of indexing a database of documents, comprising providing a vocabulary of n terms, indexing the database in the form of a non-negative  $n \times m$  index matrix V, wherein each of its n columns represents an j<sup>th</sup> document having n entries containing a function of the number of occurrences of a i<sup>th</sup> term of said vocabulary appearing in said j<sup>th</sup> document, factoring out non-negative matrix factors T and D such that  $V \approx TD$ , and wherein T is an  $n \times r$  term matrix, D is an  $r \times m$  document matrix, and r < nm/(n+m). The index so generated is useful in two-pass information retrieval systems.